



Employability Durham

Do you Need support with finding work?

Chester-le-Street & District AAP have supported an Employability Mentoring Service that can help you into employment if you are over 25.

Emma, 36, has benefitted from the service and has successfully secured employment working as a Nurse Assistant in Chester-le-Street. A single parent, Emma had been unemployed for a number of years and was referred to Employability Durham from Job Centre Plus. The scheme secured and funded paediatric first aid and safeguarding children courses which she required to get back into childcare.

Emma said: "I didn't know this support was available to help people like myself. I wouldn't have found work so quickly without all the support I received.

If you think you may benefit from this project, you can get more information by contacting Employability Durham on **03000 262009** or email employabilty@durham.gov.uk

Get closer to the heart of your community by getting connected to your local Area Action Partnership (AAP).

AAPs were set up to give people in County Durham a greater choice and voice in local affairs, have a say on services, and give organisations the chance to speak directly with local communities.

Each AAP puts plans and actions in place to deliver services where they are needed most and has a budget of £100,000 along with additional time-limited funding streams for local projects and investments

AAPs work around the four themes of Engagement, Empowerment, Local Action and Performance.

Get involved in making a difference in your community

Chester-le-Street & District AAP wants you as a new member of its Forum. You'll receive project updates and can attend special events to help improve your area. As a local forum member you'll also be invited to attend priority task group meetings to discuss community issues which are aligned to specific priorities as follows:

Thriving Chester-le-Street – which is concerned with town centre development; employment and enterprise

Supporting Chester-le- Street – which is concerned with health, children, young people and families and welfare reform impacts

Environment and Community Safety Task Group - which is concerned with neighbourhood issues including Environment, Crime and Community Safety

Please contact the AAP on **03000 266 142** or chester-le-streetaap@durham.gov.uk for more information on dates and times of upcoming meetings



AAP Priorities - have you voted yet?

Here is your chance to help your AAP to identify the key themes it should work to address between 2019 and 2021. Visit www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/1920Priorities to complete the survey by Friday 30th November 2018



Contact us

Chester-le-Street & District Area Action Partnership has a Facebook page, where we put all our exciting news and events, so please feel free to like and share our page.



Chester le Street and District Area Action Partnership.

If you would like to join the AAP Forum and receive more information on local issues please contact us on **03000 266 144** or email chester-le-streetaap@durham.gov.uk

The cost of designing, printing and distributing this newsletter is 14p per copy.

Word on le-Street

Altogether better
Durham

Chester-le-Street & District Area Action Partnership (AAP)

Chester-le-Street & District Area Action Partnership

Winter 2018

The Area Action Partnership (AAP) works across the Chester-le-Street and District area, with many different organisations to tackle issues of importance to local residents, businesses and visitors to our area.

CHRISTMAS IN CHESTER-LE-STREET

Join us for our **FREE** event from 1pm on Saturday 1st of December 2018, including Christmas lights switch on and acts throughout the afternoon.

Supported by Chester-le-Street & District AAP and Local County Councillors in partnership with Chester-le-Street & District Business Association.

This year's Christmas event will coincide with 'Small Business Saturday' and will see Christmas characters in the town centre, comedy acts performing around the Front Street and the switch on of the Christmas tree lights.

With comedy acts 'Fairly Famous' and 'There's Nothing like a Dame' performing on the front street from 1pm, and the stage show beginning in the Market Place at 4pm, its sure to be a great day out for all the Family keeping you entertained whilst Christmas shopping.

The event also marks the launch of the 'Illuminating Waste' displays; a project in which local schools and young people's groups have created artworks from refuse that will be lit in local shop windows.

Free parking available in Council run Chester-le-Street car parks from 10am for "Small Business Saturday" (Saturday 1st of December) and free parking in Council run car parks after 3pm everyday in December.



www.durham.gov.uk/chesterlestreetaap

Chester-le-Street & District Business Association

Chester-le-Street & District Business Association volunteers work actively to promote local businesses. The Association keeps a wide network of businesses informed of local issues, consultations, events and opportunities.

Over the years we have supported a range of different initiatives, including a Town Crier, The War Memorial, town centre notice boards and much more. We are always keen to have new Businesses join and get involved, for more information on how to join, or on what we do, visit our website.

www.chesterlestreetbusinessassociation.co.uk

[@chesterlestreetbusinessassociation](https://www.facebook.com/chesterlestreetbusinessassociation)

[@cls_business](https://twitter.com/cls_business)



Patient voice at heart of local NHS



Central to the work of planning NHS services in County Durham are our local patient groups.

As part of their work, Clinical Commissioning Group staff meet directly with representatives from patient groups. These monthly meetings allow a collective look at, and discussion about,

plans for future services and any issues that patients have highlighted regarding existing services.

You can find out more about what is happening in your local area by visiting the relevant Clinical Commissioning Group website Patient Reference Group pages for your part of County Durham;

www.northdurhamccg.nhs.uk/involve-me/patient-representative-group/

www.durhamdaleseasingtonsedgfieldccg.nhs.uk/involve-me/patient-reference-groups/

You can also contact your individual GP practice to find out what they do to communicate with and engage the patients in their own work.

St Peter's Court Success for Veterans

Chester-le-Street & District AAP Supported Shaid @ St Peter's Court in Sacriston with a £15,000 grant towards sixteen kitchens, bathrooms, showers and toilets. This enabled the transformation of an old care home, within Holyacre centre, from forty bedsits into sixteen self-contained flats, to house armed forces veterans.

Durham University, Hanro Group, Santander staff members, young people from Sunderland Foundation of Light and Durham Army Reserves have all visited the project to give a helping hand, removing old furniture, rubbish, painting ceilings and walls and cutting back over grown bushes in garden area.



Working towards a Dementia Friendly Society

Chester-le-Street & District AAP have been working with the Alzheimer's Society to deliver a project which will increase awareness of dementia in the North of County Durham. Supported with a £12,000 AAP grant, Rebecca Haynes has been employed to help develop an understanding community, who can recognise and support those residents living with, or who are affected by dementia. By raising awareness and understanding we are hoping to improve earlier diagnosis and in turn, provide the local support and understanding necessary to those affected to live better lives within their local community. Rebecca started her 2 year post in May 2018 and will be working closely with communities in and around Chester-le-Street. For more information on the project, please contact the AAP (details given at the bottom of the last page) or if you have been diagnosed, or are affected by dementia, you can contact the Dementia Advisor Service from the Alzheimer's Society on **0191 3890400**



Driving Employment



Chester-le-Street and District AAP had identified that there are some significant barriers in the area for people trying to access public transport to work. As such, our Board have now supported 'Wheels to Work' for a second time, offering people an alternative solution for getting to work by loaning a moped.



Wheels 2 Work offers a unique transport solution to people struggling to get to work, training or college.

Loan one of our Sym Jet 4 mopeds to help you get to work!

Please get in touch to find out more by phoning **0191 303 8442** or

Email: info@w2wcd.org.uk

Website: www.wheels2workcountydurham.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wheelstoworkcountydurham

Twitter [@W2WCountyDurham](https://twitter.com/W2WCountyDurham)



Chester's Best a Blooming Success

This October saw the Chester's Best 2018 Celebration Evening. The scheme, funded by Chester-le-Street and District AAP, saw 60 entries across 6 categories recognised for their efforts in making the Chester-le-Street & District AAP area a greener, more floral place to live. The awards saw 20 Gold awards given out and 22 Silver Gilt awards. A "Judges Discretionary Award" was given to the Bournmoor Conservation Group for Outstanding Commitment to Conservation, with the group being active in a number of projects for 30 years. If you would like to get involved in Chester's Best 2019, go to www.durham.gov.uk/inbloom and follow the links to Chester's Best.



We've Bloomin' Done It Again!

Chester-le-Street town's Northumbria in Bloom entry has been awarded the prestigious 'Best Large Town' award for the third year in a row.



It's not just the town that has cause to celebrate; Newfield and Pelton Lane Ends, along with Waldrige both were awarded Silver-Gilt for their entries, and Joyce Roberts from Newfield and Pelton Lane Ends in Bloom was one of only four people awarded the Community Champion Award for outstanding contribution to In Bloom.

For more information, visit www.durham.gov.uk/inbloom

MAN v FAT to kick off next Spring

Chester-le-Street & District AAP has supported an innovative project in order to help weight loss in men. The first of its kind in County Durham, Man v Fat is a football league for men who want to lose weight. The League will kick off in spring 2019. Updates will be given on the Chester-le-Street & District AAP Facebook page.

For more information on the national scheme, please visit the Man v Fat website:

www.manvfat.com

Durham 4 Community

A new website, supported by Durham County Council, is offering a helping hand to voluntary groups, community organisations and sports clubs looking for new sources of funding.

Durham 4 Community includes information on a wide range of local, regional and national funding schemes available in County Durham.

Sign up for free, and search for specific types of funding support or simply browse what is available before applying through the site.

To find out more, visit www.durham.gov.uk/communityfunding